

Onen hag oll

The Cornish Association of Victoria Inc. Ballarat Branch

A.C.N. A0008 264A

October 2023 Newsletter

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Saturday 7th October 2023 at 2.00 pm
The speaker will be Simon Dennis from Buninyong.

Wednesday 18th October 2023 - the launch of the CAV Library at the Castlemaine Historical Society - 7 Goldsmith Crescent, Castlemaine (Former Court House).

People are asked to arrive by 10.30 am.

The program will include morning tea and CAV members are asked to bring something to share for morning/afternoon tea.

It is anticipated that there will also be a driving tour of historical places/sites of Castlemaine and environs.

We will travel by car, in convoy, to a place/site and then a guide from Castlemaine Historical Society will detail the historical significance of the spot and then we will travel to the next place. (Similar to what we did on St Piran's Day at Buninyong) Returning to the Historical Society, afternoon tea will be served.

These arrangements are subject to change, and we will keep CAV members informed once the details are confirmed.

A pasty lunch will occur at about 1.15 pm. Cost for lunch \$15.00.

Order your pasties through **Ken Peak** by 9th October 2023 (pkicons29@bigpond.com)

Saturday 2nd December 2023 - Christmas Dinner at the Ballarat Grand 203 Dana St - cost \$38.50



August Meeting

Jenny Burrell – 1891 Women's Suffrage Petition to the Victorian Parliament

In the warmth of the Skipton Street Vestry, Jenny Burrell enlightened all present with a very interesting presentation concerning the 1891 Women's Suffrage Petition.

Included here are notes and photos provided by Jenny.

History

When the Victorian Constitution was drafted in 1853-54, women were not granted the right to vote.

However, in 1863, some Victorian women were accidentally given the right to vote, when the Parliament passed a law allowing all ratepayers listed on local municipal rolls to vote in Assembly elections, not realising that local laws allowed female ratepayers to be listed, one being a resident of Castlemaine, Fanny Finch.

The next year, many women took advantage of the oversight, casting their votes for the first time. But it was a short-lived victory.

Normally meetings are held on the even months at Skipton Street Uniting Church Hall, cnr Darling and Skipton Streets, Ballarat.
Meetings begin at 2.00 pm and are followed by a shared high tea.

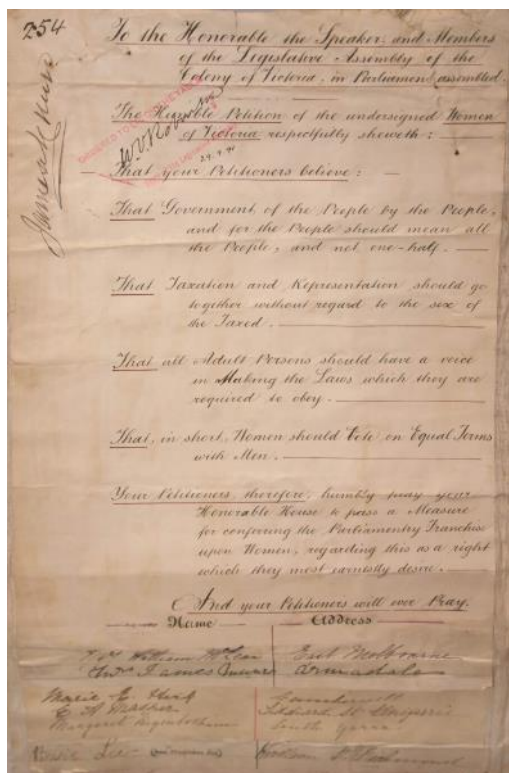


In 1865, following a brief debate, Parliament passed a law, restricting the vote to male ratepayers only.

In 1891, in an extraordinary effort to gain the right to vote for all Victorian women, a handful of dedicated women took to the streets and railway stations to collect signatures for a petition.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Women's Suffrage Society took up the challenge. In just six weeks, almost 30,000 women and men from more than 800 different Victorian towns and suburbs signed the petition, affirming their belief that 'Women should Vote on Equal Terms with Men'.

The signatures came in response to Victorian Premier and Geelong MP James Munro's promise earlier that year to endorse any petition that demonstrated women supported the cause.



The wording of the petition

- That Government of the People by the People and for the People should mean all the People, and not one-half.
- That Taxation and Representation should go together without regards to the sex of the Taxed.
- That all Adult Persons should have a VOICE in Making the Laws which they are required to obey.
- That, in short, Women should Vote on Equal Terms with Men.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable House to pass a measure for conferring the Parliamentary Franchise upon Women, regarding this as a right which they most earnestly desire.

And your petitioners will ever Pray.

The petition was tabled in Parliament on 29 September 1891 and is approximately 260 metres long and 200 millimetres wide.



Petition on display in Ballarat - 1 Oct 2014 to January 2015 for the 160th Anniversary of Eureka With a state government grant of \$30,000 the petition was transported from its home in the Public Record Office of Victoria (PROV) in North Melbourne. [VPRS 3253 Unit 851] to the Eureka Centre, here in Ballarat.

Most of the money went on building the perspex case and the transportation with security.

It is made from paper pasted to cotton or linen fabric backing, and rolled onto a cardboard spindle. It takes three people about three hours to unroll the petition from one spool to another.



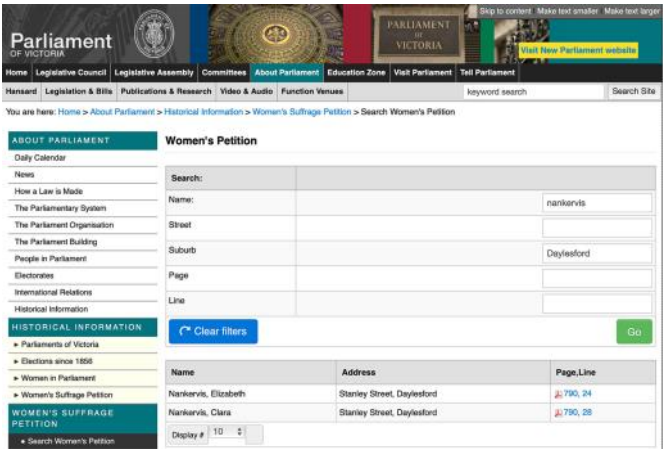
The late Joan Hunt and Jennifer Burrell 30 September 2014 with the Petition

From the State grant, a donation of \$2000 was made to the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society to continue research into signatories from the Ballarat area.

This included deciphering the handwriting, genealogical research and web development. The database grew from 803 names to 2329, about 1526 new names were added, most have carefully researched biographical details.

The database is online to view for free. It is 'a work in progress'.
<https://www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/resources/women-s-suffrage-petition>

You can check whether an ancestor of yours signed by clicking this link:
<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/the-history-of-parliament/womens-suffrage-petition/womens-petition>



The signatures vary in quality, some in coloured inks with some even in pencil.

In searching the petition, there are many errors in transcription and during her talk, Jenny alerted us to some of these with examples from her own family.

I found that my own great, grandmother L Upton is recorded as L Uston – page 271 line 18 – from Portland – she is listed with her sister M Dusting.



The first name on the petition is that of Mrs Margaret McLean (1845-1923) head of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Victoria. It had a network in place of church-going protestants lobbying for social reforms.

The second signature on the petition was that of Jane Munro wife of The Premier of Victoria, James Munro, a Scot and a Presbyterian, a stern moral church-going leader of the temperance movement.

In 1908, a bill was presented to Parliament which would give women the right to vote. It was the 19th bill relating to women's suffrage since 1889. The bill was passed on 24th November 1908 and on 16th November 1911 women were able to vote in the Victorian state election.

By then, the Commonwealth and every other state in Australia had passed women's suffrage laws.

Regardless, there was continued resistance to giving women the right to vote, and an anti-suffrage petition with 23,000 signatures was tabled in the Victorian Parliament.



Sculpture representing the Great Petition



*Location:
Macarthur Street, Burston Reserve, near Parliament House (opposite St Patrick's Cathedral)*

A white scroll-like structure, 20 metres long and imposing on the small reserve, 'Great Petition' was created by Susan Hewitt and Penelope Lee to commemorate the 100th anniversary of female suffrage in Victoria.

The plinth, designed in consideration of the sloping site, is made of bluestone, grounding the artwork in an archetypal Melbourne material.

Alongside the sculpture is a didactic panel by Australian historian Professor Marilyn Lake, explaining the history of women's suffrage in Victoria.

Launched on 3 December 2008, 'Great Petition' constitutes a contemporary interpretation of the Monster Petition – a petition with more than 30,000

signatures presented to Parliament in 1891 as evidence of the widespread support to give women Victorians voting rights.

Female suffrage was finally granted in 1908 with the passage of the Adult Suffrage Act.

Supporters: Victorian Women's Trust and Dulux

<https://citycollection.melbourne.vic.gov.au/great-petition/>

Travels around Cornwall



I was very surprised to read on a pub wall at St Merryn that the game of euchre was a Cornish Game. My grandparents taught me to play euchre as a child and my parents used to go to euchre every Tuesday afternoon.

Supposedly the game was exported by migrant Cornish workers to countries like Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the USA.



I am sure many who visit Tintagel, see this church perched on Glebe cliff and completely ignore it, more intent on travelling across to the castle ruins.



The church is built on the site of a small oratory, where a Celtic Saint chose to spend time alone with Christ.

The church no longer bears the name of the holy man or woman who originally chose to live there. As old buildings were replaced, the church authorities chose a new saint for the dedication - a Welsh Saint - St Materiana.

The first church on the site was probably built in the 6th century.

The existing church may have been created in the late 11th or early 12th century and it has been suggested that its Norman-era design includes some Saxon features, while the tower may be 13th or 15th century in date.

The most significant change in design was the restoration in 1870 by Piers St Aubyn which included a new roof.

Norman Font



Banner to St Materiana



Stained glass window

Life buoy from the wrecked ship IOTA



The Italian Ship IOTA

Iota was a wooden barque built in Bideford in 1866 and weighing 572 tons. The ship was owned by an Italian firm named Mazella based in Naples and was wrecked near Tintagel, Cornwall, on 20th December 1893.

The Iota was en route from Cardiff to Trinidad with a cargo of Welsh coal. It had a crew of eleven men and one fourteen year old youth.

The ship was driven against Lye Rock in a storm at around 5pm by which time it was already dark. Onlookers at nearby Willapark watched helplessly as mountainous waves pounded the boat.

The eleven Italian crew and one boy attempted to either swim to shore or climb from one of the ship's masts to the pinnacle of Lye Rock.

One of the sailors tried to help the fourteen-year-old boy, Domenico Catanese to shore but both drowned.

Two crew made it onto Lye Rock but it was clear that they would not make it to safety without help. Three local men led by Thomas Brown were joined by a coastguard and once the tide was low enough, they battled wind, waves and darkness to climb Lye Rock. Not understanding any Italian, they reassured the two stricken sailors by grasping their hands. Seven other men were discovered on a ledge lower down the rock and coast guard, Hughes, Thomas Brown, a blacksmith named Glanvill and Charles Hambly, went to rescue them. Hambly, a quarryman at nearby Long Grass Quarry was lowered on a rope.

All seven sailors were successfully lifted up the cliff and from here, they were taken to the mainland via coastguard's cradle.

Domenico Catanese was buried in the churchyard of St Materiana's church, although the inscription has his name as Catanese Domenico.

The Rev. Arthur Cooke led the service and said the Lord's Prayer in Latin so that the Italians might have some idea of what was happening in the burial service. For his valour, Charles Hambly was presented with a Testimonial on Vellum.



Calstock Viaduct

The viaduct is 120 feet (37 m) high with twelve 60 feet (18 m) wide arches, and a further small arch in the Calstock abutment.

Three of the piers stand in the River Tamar, tidal at this point and has a minimum clearance at high tide of 110 feet (34 m).

It was built between 1904 and 1907 by John Lang of Liskeard using 11,148 concrete blocks.

These were cast in a temporary yard on the Devon bank opposite the village.

The engineers were Richard Church and W. R. Galbraith.

It is a Grade II listed structure.

The railway from Plymouth to Gunnislake is designated as a community railway and is supported by marketing provided by the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership. The line is promoted under the "Tamar Valley Line" name.

Two pubs in Calstock take part in the Tamar Valley Line rail ale trail, which is designed to promote the use of the line.



The Tamar Inn at Calstock



St Andrew's
Church
Calstock

In the church yard of St Andrew's in 2008, the remnants of a Roman Fort was discovered. There is evidence of human settlement in Calstock from Roman, or pre-Roman times, and it is thought settlers were attracted by the rich source of minerals, such as tin. It is thought that up to 500 soldiers would have been based in the area. The site of Calstock Roman Fort probably dates from the 1st century AD. This is only the third Roman fort to have been found in Cornwall and the first with possible associations with Roman military interests in Cornwall's mineral resources. This is much larger than the other two known Roman forts in Cornwall; Nanstallon Fort and Restormel Roman Fortlet. Like the other two sites it was found close to mineral deposits associated with tin mining which may be an important factor in the Roman occupation of Cornwall. More recent excavations have revealed the presence of a Roman mine consisting of pits connected by a network of tunnels. There is also evidence of a Roman road in the vicinity. Mining was important in Calstock from Mediaeval times, with the Duchy mining silver. In the Calstock area, the mining industry was booming in the late 19th century, and the discovery of copper, coupled with nearby granite quarrying, made Calstock a very busy port. The Great British Dig Team made a program about the fort and it was aired in the UK in 2023.



This is a photo given to us by Calstock Historical Group showing the area around the Church.

Prideaux Place



Prideaux Place was the site of the 2023 Gorsedh Ceremony. Prideaux Place is an Elizabethan country house in the parish of Padstow, Cornwall, England. It has been the home of the Prideaux family for over 400 years. The house was built in 1592 by Sir Nicholas Prideaux (1550–1627), a distinguished lawyer and was enlarged and modified by successive generations. The present building, containing 81 rooms. The current owners are Peter Prideux Brune and his wife Elizabeth, seen with Arthur and Robyn, prior to the ceremony.



St Enodoc Church

The church is situated in sand dunes east of Daymer Bay and Brea Hill on the River Camel estuary.

The church is said to lie on the site of a cave where Enodoc lived as a hermit.

The oldest part of the church dates from around the twelfth century.

Additions were made in the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries.

From the sixteenth century to the middle of the nineteenth century, the church was virtually buried by the dunes and was known locally as "Sinking Neddy" or "Sinkinny Church".

To maintain the tithes required by the church, it had to host services at least once a year, so the vicar and parishioners descended into the sanctuary through a hole in the roof.

By 1864 it was unearthed and the dunes were stabilized.

The church is built in stone rubble with slate roofs.

The church is surrounded by the Church course of the St Enodoc Golf Club.

The churchyard contains the grave of Sir John Betjeman, the poet laureate from 1972 until 1984.

He had referenced the church in his poem *Sunday Afternoon Service at St. Enodoc*.

Sunday Afternoon Service at St. Enodoc

Come on! Come on! This hillock hides the spire,
Now that one and now none. As winds about
The burnished path through lady's-finger, thyme,
And bright varieties of saxifrage,
So grows the tinny tenor faint or loud
All all things draw toward St. Enodoc.
Come on! Come on! and it is five to three.
Still, Come on! come on!

The tinny tenor. Hover-flies remain

More than a moment on a ragwort bunch,
And people's passing shadows don't disturb
Red Admirals basking with their wings apart.

A mile of sunny, empty sand away,
A mile of shallow pools and lugworm casts.
Safe, faint and surfy, laps the lowest tide.



12th century font



Cornish Snippets

Gorsedh Kernow ceremony welcomes 29 new bards

A ceremony has seen 29 new bards swear allegiance to Cornwall as a Celtic nation. They have joined about 500 members of the College of Bards of Gorsedh Kernow.

The group was established in 1928 to celebrate and promote Cornwall's distinctive Celtic culture.

The ceremony, at Prideaux Place in Padstow, has welcomed "those whose work reflects both

traditional and modern aspects of our Cornish culture", said Grand Bard of Cornwall, Pol Hodge.

"Several new bards are involved with Cornish dance and with traditional and choral music," he said.

"Others are actors and performers who are working with Cornwall's prominent and innovative theatre companies and showcasing their expertise on stage and film, both locally and internationally.

"Some are honoured for their work with Cornish cultural events and with the Old Cornwall Society who work to maintain our traditions and extend our knowledge of them."

He said others worked with "Cornish institutions such as the Cornish Gig Association, Porthcurno Cable and Wireless Museum... while a number are honoured for their knowledge of and work with the Cornish language".

"All are important to Cornwall and we are very glad to welcome them this year," he added.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-66682274>

Polperro Choir celebrates 100 years

From harbour quays to the Royal Albert Hall, Polperro Fishermen's Choir has been singing to audiences for 100 years. Its roots go back to a time when those that earned their living from the sea sang hymns to acknowledge their Christian faith.

Ten decades on, the choir is still enchanting crowds while also raising money for charity.

It is marking its 100th birthday with a series of centenary concerts. The concerts continue throughout the year at venues stretching from the Isles of Scilly to Liskeard. Events conclude with a Christmas concert back where it all started, in Polperro.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-66773318>

House prices: Wales to help Cornwall tackle its housing crisis

A new shared learning agreement between Wales

and Cornwall is hoped to help tackle the Cornish housing crisis.

From April this year Welsh councils can set council tax premiums at 300% for second homes to help free up housing stock for locals.

Second homes will be top of the agenda for focus groups set up as part of the contract.

The leader of Cornwall council said housing was a "real issue" in both regions.

Wales and Cornwall have some spectacular scenery which are a magnet for tourists and second home owners.

A lack of affordable housing and second homes is hitting both areas and it's not just the seaside or rural villages.

The Welsh government has said it wants to "develop a fairer housing market", and that new tax changes were designed to both ensure owners made a fair contribution to communities and to show whether properties were being let regularly.

In Cornwall there are over 13,000 holiday homes, and leaders are looking closely at what's happening in Wales.

Pol Hodge, who holds the ceremonial role of grand bard of Cornwall, said he felt "very angry about the second home situation".

"We look to Wales where there is a 300% charge, whereas we look at here and it is just like the wild west," he said.

"Because the tourist industry is more focused around our coastal areas it has decimated our coastal communities.

"We have a housing crisis where a lot of our young people have got nowhere to live."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-66739065>

Rival bid to operate Isles of Scilly ferries

A shipbuilding company has proposed building and operating ferries to the Isles of Scilly in a move that could create competition on the route.

Harland & Wolff (H&W) said it was preparing a business case to operate two ferries from Penzance to Scilly, as well as one inter-island vessel, beginning in 2025.

It said it planned to apply for levelling up funding from the government.

The passenger and freight ferry routes are currently operated solely by the Isles of Scilly Steamship Company (ISSC).

In 2021 the project to improve sea links was granted £48m of levelling up funding by the government.

In April, the ISSC said it would borrow more than £33m to replace its fleet after failing to make progress with government funding.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crg40eyy96lo>